

260 SHORE RD
WATERFORD, CT 06385
February 16, 2017

To: Appropriations Committee via APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov

Dear Committee members,

Thank you for your continued support for State Parks.

As the legislature seeks to find ways to match spending and revenues, I do not envy you, your task. I regret that I find the Governor's proposal to cut funding for State Parks is "penny wise and pound foolish." This is not a smart way to balance the budget. The State Park budget is already extremely small but adds great value to the State economy. As a Connecticut voter and a member of the Friends of Fort Trumbull State Park, I ask for you to work with others to gain greater **support for State Parks in this current legislative session in the budget appropriations process.**

Every year State Parks and Forests attract over 8 million visitors, generate over \$1 billion, and support over 9,000 jobs. They Provide Places for Everyone: Public lands benefit all of us.

I believe that it is important to support State Parks. Please support our State Parks. Thank you.

Sincerely,

G. Clifford Carter